

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A contents distributing apparatus which is connected to an information processing terminal and an output device via a network and transmits and prints  
5 out to said output device contents of which a reservation for printing has been made by means of said information processing terminal via said network, said contents distributing apparatus comprising:

storage means, when said information processing  
10 terminal accesses to a printing reservation site of said network, thereby making a reservation for printing of contents, for storing reservation information on said reserved contents corresponding to user identification information on said information  
15 processing terminal; and

communication means for receiving user  
identification information transmitted from said output device, reading from said storage means the reservation information on said reserved contents corresponding to  
20 the received user identification information, transmitting to said output device the predetermined contents corresponding to the read reservation information and a printing charge according to a printout of the reserved contents, and printing out  
25 said reserved contents under the condition that said printing charge is fare-adjusted by said output device.

2. The contents distributing apparatus according

05696095 "102500

to claim 1, further comprising:

site means for establishing the printing reservation site over said network.

3. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

balance storage means for storing a balance for printing out said reserved contents corresponding to the user identification information on said information processing terminal; and

10 accounting means for, when said output device has printed out the contents of which reservation for said printing has been made, subtracting a printing charge according to the printout of said reserved contents from said amount of balance stored in said balance storage means.

4. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said output device comprises:

an input device for inputting the user identification information;

20 a cash entry device for entering a cash;

a communication device for transmitting to said contents distributing apparatus the user identification information inputted by said input device and receiving said printing charge and said reserved contents from said contents distributing apparatus; and

25 print means for, when said printing charge received by said communication device has been entered

05696095 102500

from said cash entry device, printing said reserved contents received by said communication device.

5. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said site means further comprises:

5           a controller for setting a user registration site for newly registering a user at said printing reservation site, and when said information processing terminal accesses to said user registration site to newly register a new user of a new information  
10           processing terminal, storing in said storage means an amount of money for bonus corresponding to the user identification information on said new information processing terminal.

6. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said site means further comprises:

15           a controller for setting an introducing user input item for inputting another user who has introduced a new user, and when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to input  
20           said another user that has introduced the new user, storing in said storage means an amount of money for bonus corresponding to the user identification information on said another user.

7. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said site means further comprises:

25           a controller for setting a questionnaire item for inputting answers to questions at said printing

05696095 " 102500

reservation site, and when said answers to questions are inputted at said printing reservation site by means of said information processing terminal, storing in said storage means an amount of money for bonus  
5 corresponding to the user identification information on said information processing terminal that has inputted the answers to questions.

8. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said site means further comprises:

10 a controller for setting a specification item for specifying printing of advertisement contents at said printing reservation site, and when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to specify printing of advertisement  
15 contents, storing in said storage means an amount of money for bonus corresponding to the user identification information on said information processing terminal.

9. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

20 attribute information storage means for storing user attribute information corresponding to said user identification information;

25 limitation information storage means for storing limitation information that limits reservation for printing based on user attribute information by each of said contents; and

05696095 " 102500

reservation limiting means for, when said  
information processing terminal accesses to said  
printing reservation site to make a reservation for  
printing, limiting said reservation for printing based  
5 on user attribute information corresponding to user  
identification information on the information  
processing terminal stored in said attribute  
information storage means and limitation information  
corresponding to the contents stored in said limitation  
10 information storage means.

10. The contents distributing apparatus according  
to claim 1, further comprising:

limitation information storage means for storing  
distribution limiting information on contents  
15 corresponding to said output means; and

distribution limiting means for, when contents are  
transmitted to said output device, limiting  
distribution of contents to the output device based on  
said distribution limiting information stored in said  
20 storage means.

11. The contents distributing apparatus according  
to claim 1, further comprising:

attribute information storage means for storing  
the user limiting information corresponding to said  
25 user identification information;

advertising conditions storing means for storing  
advertising conditions of advertisement contents based

05696095 " 102500

on user attribute information; and

advertisement determining means for, when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to make a reservation for printing, determining advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said user attribute information stored in said attribute information storage means and said advertising conditions stored in said advertising condition storage means.

12. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

advertising condition storage means for storing advertising conditions of advertisement contents specified for said output device; and

advertisement determining means for, when contents are transmitted to said output device, determining advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said advertising conditions stored in said storage means.

13. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

limitation information storage means for storing advertising limitation information of advertisement contents specified for said output device; and

advertising limitation means for limiting the advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said advertising limitation information stored in

00565095.102500

said limitation information storage means.

14. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

5 limitation information storage means for storing advertising limitation information of advertisement contents specified for a contents provider; and

10 advertising limitation means for, when contents are transmitted to said output device, limiting the advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said advertising limitation information stored in said limitation information storage means.

15 15. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

15 attribute information storage means for storing user attribute information corresponding to said user identification information;

20 limitation information storage means for storing advertising limitation information of advertisement contents based on user attribute information; and

25 advertising limitation means for, when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to reserve printing of contents, limiting the advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said user attribute information stored in said attribute information storage means and said advertising limitation information stored in said limitation information

09696055 102500

storage means.

16. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

5           period information storage means for storing  
advertising period information of advertisement  
contents; and

10           advertising limitation means for, when contents  
are transmitted to said output device, limiting  
advertising to the contents of the advertisement  
contents that exceed the advertising period based on  
said advertising period information stored in said  
period information storage means.

15           17. A contents distributing apparatus which is  
connected to an information processing terminal and an  
output device via a network and transmits and prints  
out to said output device contents of which a  
reservation for printing has been made by means of said  
information processing terminal via said network, said  
contents distributing apparatus comprising:

20           storage means for storing reservation information  
of the reserved contents corresponding to user  
identification information on said information  
processing terminal; and

25           communication means for receiving the user  
identification information transmitted from said output  
device, reading from said storage means the reservation  
information of the reserved contents corresponding to

05656055 102500



the received user identification information, and transmitting to said output device the reserved contents corresponding to the read reservation information.

5           18. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

site means for establishing the printing reservation site over said network.

10           19. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said output device comprises:

an input device for inputting user identification information;

15           a communication device for transmitting the user identification information inputted from said input device to said contents distributing apparatus, and receiving the reserved contents corresponding to said user identification information transmitted from said contents distributing apparatus; and

20           a printer for printing said reserved contents received by said communication device.

20. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

25           identification information generation means for, when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to reserve printing of contents, generating identification information by said each reservation for printing; and

05656095.102500

identification information storage means for  
storing reservation information on the reserved  
contents, said reservation information being associated  
with identification information generated by said  
5 identification information generation means,

wherein said communication means transmits the  
identification information generated by said  
identification information generation means to said  
information processing terminal, receives the  
10 identification information transmitted from said output  
device, and transmits to said output device the  
contents corresponding to the identification  
information when the received identification  
information coincides with the identification  
15 information stored in said identification information  
storage means.

21. The contents distributing apparatus according  
to claim 17, further comprising:

accounting information storage means for storing  
20 accounting information relevant to printout of contents  
corresponding to the user identification information on  
said information processing terminal; and

accounting means for, when said output device  
prints out the reserved contents, updating said  
25 accounting information stored in said accounting  
information storage means.

22. The contents distributing apparatus according

09656095 "102500

to claim 17, further comprising:

balance storage means for storing a balance for  
contents printout corresponding to the user  
identification information on said information  
processing terminal; and

accounting means for, when said output device  
prints out the reserved contents, subtracting a  
printing charge according to printout of the reserved  
contents from said balance stored in said balance  
storage means.

23. The contents distributing apparatus according  
to claim 17, further comprising:

additive amount storage means for stored an added  
amount of money corresponding said advertising  
contents;

balance storage means for storing a balance for  
printing of contents corresponding to the user  
identification information on said information  
processing terminal; and

accounting means for, when advertisement contents  
are added and printed out by said output device,  
reading from said additive amount storage means said  
additive amount corresponding to the advertisement  
contents, and adding said additive amount to said  
balance corresponding to the user identification  
information stored in said balance storage means.

24. The contents distributing apparatus according

0506095 102500

to claim 18, wherein said site means further comprises:

search means for establishing a contents search site at said printing reservation site, and causing said information processing terminal to search contents at the contents search site when said information processing terminal accesses to said contents search site.

25. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising:

cost storage means for storing a printing cost corresponding to printing of contents, wherein said accounting means reads from said cost storage means a printed contents charge and a printing cost every time said output device prints data to calculate the charge, and updates said accounting information corresponding to the user identification information on the information processing terminal stored in said accounting information storage means every time the printing of the printing matter completes.

26. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said site means further comprises:

a controller for setting a user registration site for newly registering a user at said printing reservation site, and when said information processing terminal accesses to said user registration site to newly register a new user of a new information processing terminal, storing in said storage means an

005696095 102500

amount of money for bonus corresponding to the user identification information on said new information processing terminal.

27. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said site means further comprises:

5 a controller for setting an introducing user input item for inputting another user who has introduced a new user, and when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to input  
10 said another user that has introduced the new user, storing in said storage means an amount of money for bonus corresponding to the user identification information on said another user.

28. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said site means further comprises:

15 a controller for setting a questionnaire item for inputting answers to questions at said printing reservation site, and when said answers to questions are inputted at said printing reservation site by means  
20 of said information processing terminal, storing in said storage means an amount of money for bonus corresponding to the user identification information on said information processing terminal that has inputted the answers to questions.

29. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said site means further comprises:

a controller for setting a specification item for

0966095 102500

specifying printing of advertisement contents at said  
printing reservation site, and when said information  
processing terminal accesses to said printing  
reservation site to specify printing of advertisement  
5 contents, storing in said storage means an amount of  
money for bonus corresponding to the user  
identification information on said information  
processing terminal.

30. The contents distributing apparatus according  
10 to claim 17, further comprising:

attribute information storage means for storing  
user attribute information corresponding to said user  
identification information;

15 limitation information storage means for storing  
limitation information that limits reservation for  
printing based on user attribute information by each of  
said contents; and

reservation limiting means for, when said  
information processing terminal accesses to said  
20 printing reservation site to make a reservation for  
printing, limiting said reservation for printing based  
on user attribute information corresponding to user  
identification information on the information  
processing terminal stored in said attribute  
25 information storage means and limitation information  
corresponding to the contents stored in said limitation  
information storage means.

0965095 " 102500

31. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

limitation information storage means for storing distribution limiting information on contents  
5 corresponding to said output means; and

distribution limiting means for, when contents are transmitted to said output device, limiting distribution of contents to the output device based on said distribution limiting information stored in said  
10 storage means.

32. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

attribute information storage means for storing the user limiting information corresponding to said  
15 user identification information;

advertising conditions storing means for storing advertising conditions of advertisement contents based on user attribute information; and

advertisement determining means for, when said  
20 information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to make a reservation for printing, determining advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said user attribute information stored in said attribute information  
25 storage means and said advertising conditions stored in said advertising condition storage means.

33. The contents distributing apparatus according

09696095 " 102500

to claim 17, further comprising:

advertising condition storage means for storing advertising conditions of advertisement contents specified for said output device; and

5 advertisement determining means for, when contents are transmitted to said output device, determining advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said advertising conditions stored in said storage means.

10 34. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

limitation information storage means for storing advertising limitation information of advertisement contents specified for said output device; and

15 advertising limitation means for limiting the advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said advertising limitation information stored in said limitation information storage means.

20 35. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

limitation information storage means for storing advertising limitation information of advertisement contents specified for a contents provider; and

25 advertising limitation means for, when contents are transmitted to said output device, limiting the advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said advertising limitation information stored in

09696095 "102500



said limitation information storage means.

36. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

5 attribute information storage means for storing user attribute information corresponding to said user identification information;

limitation information storage means for storing advertising limitation information of advertisement contents based on user attribute information; and

10 advertising limitation means for, when said information processing terminal accesses to said printing reservation site to reserve printing of contents, limiting the advertisement contents to be put in the contents based on said user attribute  
15 information stored in said attribute information storage means and said advertising limitation information stored in said limitation information storage means.

20 37. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

period information storage means for storing advertising period information of advertisement contents; and

25 advertising limitation means for, when contents are transmitted to said output device, limiting advertising to the contents of the advertisement contents that exceed the advertising period based on

05656055 102500

said advertising period information stored in said period information storage means.

38. The contents distributing apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

5           print history storage means for storing a print history of advertisement contents printed by said output device by said each user of the information processing terminal; and

10           advertisement selecting means for selecting advertisement contents by referring to the advertisement print history corresponding to the user of the information processing terminal stored in said advertisement print history means.

15           39. A recording medium having a computer readable program code, said recording medium comprising:

20           a computer readable program code for, when an information processing terminal connected to said network accesses to a printing reservation site for reserving printing of contents to reserve the printing of contents, storing reservation information on the reserved contents, corresponding to user identification information on said information processing terminal; and

25           a computer readable program code for receiving user identification information transmitted from an output device connected to said network, reading the reservation information on the reserved contents

09696095 102500

associating with the received user identification information, and transmitting to said output device the contents corresponding to the read reservation information.

09696095 102500